

**Department of Historic Resources  
Reconnaissance Level Survey**

**Accomack**

**DHR Id#: 001-0027-0046**

**Resource Identification**

Property Name(s): ..... WFF # F-004 - Dormitory {Current}  
Property Date: ..... 1946  
Address(s): ..... Bliss Street {Current}  
County/Independent City: ..... Accomack  
Vicinity of: ..... Chincoteague  
State, Zip: ..... Virginia 23337  
USGS Quad Name: ..... CHINCOTEAGUE WEST  
Surrounding area: ..... Rural

**National Register Eligibility Status**

Property is Historic (50 years or older)

**Resource Description**

Ownership Status: ..... Public - Federal  
Acreage: ..... 0.5

**Primary Resource Exterior Component Description:**

| <u>Component</u>  | <u>Comp Type/Form</u>          | <u>Material</u> | <u>Material Treatment</u>    |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| Chimneys          | Chimneys - Interior stove flue | Aluminum        |                              |
| Foundation        | Foundation - Slab              | Concrete        | Foundation - Poured          |
| Porch             | Porch - None                   |                 |                              |
| Roof              | Roof - Flat                    | other           | Roof - Original Replaced     |
| Structural System | Structural System - Masonry    | Brick           | Structural System - Stuccoed |
| Structural System | Windows - Sash, double-hung    | Vinyl           | Windows - Original Replaced  |

Site Description: ..... Set on a flat, level area along Bliss Street between F-3 (001-0027-0045) and F-5 (001-0027-0047), with trees located to the southeast.

**WUZIT Count:**

| <u>No.</u> | <u>Wuzit Types</u> | <u>Historic?</u> |
|------------|--------------------|------------------|
| 1          | Dormitory          | Historic         |

**NR Resource Count:**

**Individual Resource Information**

WUZIT: ..... Dormitory

Est. Date of Construction: .... 1946 {Owner/written data}      Accessed? ..... Yes  
Primary Resource? ..... Yes      Number of Stories: ..... 2.0  
Architectural Style: ..... Other      Condition: ..... Good-Excellent  
Interior Plan Type: ..... Central Corridor      Threats to Resource: ..... None Known

Description: This long, rectangular two-story building has been greatly reworked since its original construction. Concrete block walls onto which five, square-plan exterior additions have been built have enclosed the northeast and southwest walls of the original, rectangular two story main block. A single rectangular one-story shed addition has been built onto the entire northwest (front) elevation while a two-story shed addition has been built onto the southern half of the southeast elevation. All of the windows have been replaced with 1/1 double hung vinyl sash. All of the doors have been replaced as well with metal doors. The building is clad with tan stucco and white brick vertically laid in stacked bond. The roofs of the main block and the additions have been covered with modern corrugated sheet metal factory-painted brown.

**Cemetery Information**

**Bridge Information**

**National Register Eligibility Information**

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Historic Context(s): ..... Military/Defense

Historic Time Period(s):..... S- The New Dominion (1941- Present)

**Significance Statement:** This two-story masonry building, built in 1946, originally served bachelor officers' quarters for the Chincoteague Naval Auxiliary Air Station (CNAAS). The building was designated as "F-4" on the 1950 "Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" prepared by the U.S. Navy. It was designated as "B.O.Q." on the 1953 "Station Development Map – Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" by the U.S. Navy. It was again identified as the "F-4" in the 1957 "General Development Plan – Naval Air Station, Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia" by U.S. Navy. The building is located on Bliss Street, between the Conference and Morale Activities Building (001-0027-0045, WFF # F-003) and another Dormitory Building (001-0027-0047, WFF # F-005) in a level area near the geographic center of the Wallops Flight Facility (WFF) main base. Concrete sidewalks surround the building, with extensions to each doorway and the adjacent buildings. A wooded area is located behind the building to the southeast.

This building is an example of a Military/Defense property type that gained importance in the New Dominion (1945 – present) period and was one of several buildings constructed on CNAAS following the end of World War II. Established in 1943, CNAAS was used as a training base for Navy aircraft carrier squadrons that would be serving in the Pacific theater of World War II, and to enable Civil Air Patrol to conduct antisubmarine operations off the Atlantic coast. In 1946, the U.S. Navy expanded the mission of CNAAS to include the Naval Air Ordnance Test Station (NAOTS). By 1949, the U.S. Navy discontinued aircraft carrier training and in 1951 CNAAS became a Naval Air Facility, with a primarily research-based mission that corresponded with the mission of NAOTS until the base was closed in 1959. In 1959, the ownership of CNAAS was transferred to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and was renamed Wallops Station. While the building still serves as a dormitory for conferences and as temporary housing by visiting government employees, additions and alterations have removed or obscured all original building fabric.

The Dormitory has been evaluated both as a contributing resource in a historic district and as an individual resource. Issues of significance, integrity, and district boundaries were carefully considered. A proposed district comprising this resource lacks integrity of design, setting, materials, workmanship, feeling and association due to the removal of the majority of buildings from the period of significance (1936 to 1959) and the construction of later buildings. Thus a historic district here is not eligible under Criterion A, B, C or D.

The resource is not eligible for listing in the National Register or the Virginia Landmarks Register under Criterion A, B, C, or D. It is not associated with any event or individual significant at the local, state or national level; it does not embody the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction, or represent the work of a master, or possess high artistic values, or represent a significant or distinguishable entity whose components may lack individual distinction; nor does this property have the potential for providing additional information in history or prehistory.

The resource has lost its integrity due to alterations to the resource and its setting. The resource's integrity of design, materials, and workmanship has been adversely affected by the replacement and covering of much of the building's original materials, including the exterior walls, roof, doors and windows and the introduction of a modern additions to each elevation. Although remaining in its historic location, the building's integrity of setting, feeling, and association has been adversely affected by the changes made to the building itself and the surrounding setting of the base of which it was a part; by 2004, the majority of buildings of this period have been demolished, changing the historic character of the physical environment of the building's historic context.

### Bibliographic Documentation

**Department of Historic Resources  
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**DHR Id#: 001-0027-0046**

*Reference #: 1*

*Bibliographic RecordType:* ..... Map

*Author:* ..... Giffels and Valet

*Citation Abbreviation:* .....

*Notes:* ..... Giffels and Valet, Engineers and Architects, Detroit, Michigan. "General Plot Plan – Auxiliary Air Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1942.

*Reference #: 2*

*Bibliographic RecordType:* ..... Map

*Author:* ..... U.S. Navy

*Citation Abbreviation:* .....

*Notes:* ..... "Map of Navy Auxiliary Air Station and Naval Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1950.

*Reference #: 3*

*Bibliographic RecordType:* ..... Map

*Author:* ..... U.S. Navy

*Citation Abbreviation:* .....

*Notes:* ..... "Station Development Map – Naval Auxiliary Air Station, Naval Aviation Ordnance Test Station, Chincoteague, Virginia." 1953.

**Ownership Information**

**Graphic Media Documentation**

| <i>Medium</i> | <i>Depository ID #</i> | <i>Photo Depository</i> | <i>Date</i> | <i>File Name</i> |
|---------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| 35mm B&W      | 21529                  | DHR                     | 2004/07/99  | Frames 10-13     |

**Cultural Resource Management (CRM) Events**

*CRM Event # 1,*

*Cultural Resource Management Event:* ..... Reconnaissance Survey

*Date:* ..... 2004/07/99

*Organization or Person:* ..... URS Group

*VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event:* .. 2003-0571

*CRM Event Notes or Comments:* ..... 200 Orchard Ridge Drive, Suite 101  
Gaithersburg, MD 20878

*CRM Event # 2,*

*Cultural Resource Management Event:* ..... Reconnaissance Survey

*Date:* ..... 2003/08/08

*Organization or Person:* ..... URS Group

*VDHR Project ID # Associated with Event:* .. 2003-0571

*CRM Event Notes or Comments:* ..... 7101 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 700  
Bethesda, MD 20814